

Proposal for Legislation -- 2021 Voluntary Service Agreement

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1. What is the problem or issue?

MCA 41-3-302 includes language that confuses the process of differentiating between prevention plan services and a voluntary placement outside of a child's home. Clarifying this language is necessary in order to effectuate the provisions of the Family First Prevention Services Act, which require that a child is not placed outside of the home in order for a prevention plan to occur.

2. What do you want the legislation to do?

Streamline and clarify language to align with Family First Prevention Services Act for effectuating prevention plans.

3. If possible, please list the MCA (Montana Code Annotated) sections that would need to be amended.

MCA 41-3-302

4. If the proposed change requires additional funding, what funding sources do you propose?

No additional funding is necessary.

5. Has similar legislation been requested in the past, been introduced in another state, or provided as a model act? If so, please provide a citation, reference, or point of contact.

Several states have approved Title-IV Prevention Plans; unknown if each state needed legislative changes or has statutory language that requires clarification.